GDF SUEZ Energy North America Testimony regarding: House Bill 5507 An Act Concerning Consumer Protection in the Electricity Market

GDF SUEZ Energy North America (GSENA) owns and operates approximately 1,500 MW of generating capacity in New England, including 245 MW in Connecticut. It is also the parent of GDF SUEZ Energy Resources NA (GSERNA), a competitive retail electricity supplier in Connecticut serving approximately 100 commercial and industrial customers, including municipalities and state entities, allowing them to efficiently and sustainably grow their organizations in CT and in turn play a major role in job retention and creation. Through both our generation and retail businesses we directly employ around 100 people in the State.

GSERNA appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in opposition to House Bill 5507. Our company is one of 13 members of the Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA), a trade association consisting of members actively involved in supplying competitive electric and natural gas products in the U.S., including customers in Connecticut.

GSENA fully supports the comments submitted by RESA that assert that language excluding information about choosing competitive electric suppliers will negatively impact customers' ability to choose the energy product that offers them the most benefits. This proposed censorship of competitive alternatives from public education campaigns is akin to a "half truth" and therefore not the full disclosure CT ratepayers deserve so that they can maximize any savings benefits.

As RESA's comments detail, Connecticut's DPUC-operated web-site, <u>www.ctenergyinfo.com</u> has been successfully providing Connecticut consumers with useful information about their options in the competitive supplier community and the exclusion of this type of information will do nothing but dull customer education and inhibit savings.

GSERNA urges the Committee to oppose H.B. 5507.

Thank you.

Submitted by:

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